

## CLAIMS

1. DNA molecule that codes for a protein of the TGF- $\beta$  family and which comprises
  - (a) the part coding for the mature protein and if desired further functional parts of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO. 1,
  - (b) a nucleotide sequence corresponding to the sequence from (a) within the scope of the degeneracy of the genetic code,
  - (c) a nucleotide sequence corresponding to an allelic derivative of one of the sequences from (a) and (b), or
  - (d) a nucleotide sequence hybridizing with one of the sequences from (a), (b) or (c)provided that a DNA molecule according to (d) completely contains at least the part coding for a mature protein of the TGF- $\beta$  family.
2. Vector,  
w h e r e i n  
it contains at least one copy of a DNA molecule as claimed in claim 1.
3. Host cell,  
w h e r e i n  
it is transformed by a DNA as claimed in claim 1 or by a vector as claimed in claim 2.

4. Host cell as claimed in claim 3,  
w h e r e i n  
it is a bacterium, a fungus, a plant or an animal  
cell.
5. Protein of the TGF- $\beta$  family which is coded by a DNA  
sequence as claimed in claim 1.
5. Protein as claimed in claim 5,  
w h e r e i n  
it has the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID  
NO. 2 or, if desired, functional parts thereof.
7. Process for the production of a protein of the  
TGF- $\beta$  family,  
w h e r e i n  
a host cell as claimed in claim 3 or 4 is cultured  
and the TGF- $\beta$  protein is isolated from the cell  
or/and from the culture supernatant.
8. Pharmaceutical composition,  
w h e r e i n  
it contains at least one protein as claimed in  
claim 5 or 6 as the active substance if desired,  
together with the usual pharmaceutical carrier  
substances, auxiliary substances, diluents or  
fillers.
9. Pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8  
for the treatment or prevention of damage to bone,  
cartilage, connective tissues, skin, mucous  
membranes, epithelium or teeth, for application in  
dental implants and for application in wound-  
healing and tissue regeneration processes.

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10. Antibody or antibody fragments,  
w h e r e i n ~~D~~  
they bind to a protein as claimed in claim 5 or 6.

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add  
G'

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